

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Market News Division

Federal Market News Service
1400 Independence Ave, SW
STOP 0238

Washington, DC 20250

Phone: 202-720- 2175 FAX: 202-720-0547

Website: www.marketnews.usda.gov/mnp/fv-home
www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/fvmhoney.pdf

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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2015

IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY - (# Some in Small Lot --- +Some delayed payments or previous commitment)

CALIFORNIA

Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$2.05
Orange Blossom	Extra Light Amber	\$2.10

COLORADO

Alfalfa	Light Amber	\$2.00
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DAKOTA

Clover	Water White	\$2.10
Clover	White	\$1.90
Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.60
Western	White	\$1.70
Western	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70

FLORIDA

Palmetto	Extra Light Amber	\$2.20
Orange Blossom	Extra Light Amber	\$2.20
Wildflower	Extra Light Amber	\$1.75 - \$2.20
Wildflower	Light Amber	\$1.60

GEORGIA

Gallberry	Light Amber	\$2.50
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IOWA

Clover	White	\$2.07
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LOUISIANA

Tallow	Light Amber	\$1.80
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MISSISSIPPI

Gallberry	Light Amber	\$1.85
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MONTANA

Clover	White	\$1.90
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NEBRASKA

Clover	White	\$1.90
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WYOMING

Alfalfa	Extra Light Amber	\$1.70
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Prices paid to Canadian Beekeepers for unprocessed, bulk honey by packers and importers in U. S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty and crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

Canola	White	\$1.93	-	\$1.94
Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.90		

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound, ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

ARGENTINA

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.71	-	\$1.88
Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.80	-	\$1.88
Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.40		

BRAZIL

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.89
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ORGANIC	White	\$1.86
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ORGANIC	Extra Light	\$1.79	-	\$1.89
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INDIA

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.57	-	\$1.78
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Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.68	-	\$1.71
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Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.53	-	\$1.65
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VIETNAM

Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.39	-	\$1.54
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Mixed Flowers	Amber	\$1.47	-	\$1.53
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UKRAINE

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.63
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Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.70
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Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.60	-	\$1.70
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URUGUAY

Mixed Flowers	White	\$1.66
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Mixed Flowers	Extra Light	\$1.73
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Mixed Flowers	Light Amber	\$1.49	-	\$1.68
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COLONY, HONEY PLANT AND MARKET CONDITIONS DURING AUGUST, 2015

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT (MD, PA, VA, WV): For most of the month of August, the weather felt more like September with daytime temperatures in the eighties and low humidity. By the end of the month, higher temperatures and the normally hot, humid weather returned. Thunderstorms were scattered with little rainfall with the exception of a heavy downpour mid-month which dropped 3-4 inches in several locations throughout the District. Colonies continue to experience good honey flows and fairly good health as the area moisture has encouraged the production of pollen on area wildflowers. Beekeepers continue to monitor for varroa mites. Current pollen sources include goldenrod, joe-pye wee, common milkweed, and various other wildflowers. Entries for state and local fairs have increased from the previous year due to increased honey production.

ALABAMA: No report issued.

ARIZONA: Temperatures in Arizona were at below normal levels during the first week of August, at normal levels the second week of August, and at above normal levels for the remainder of the month. The high temperature for the month was recorded in Bullhead City and Mohave at 118 degrees Fahrenheit; while the low temperature for the month in Arizona was 41 degrees Fahrenheit in Grand Canyon.

During the month of August, the weekly number of reporting stations across Arizona to receive precipitation (out of 50 stations) were 41, 41, 45 and 19, respectively. Out of the 50 reporting stations, 21 are at above normal precipitation levels for the year, with 29 stations at below normal levels for the year.

The main nectar and pollen sources for bees in the state during the month of August were mixed and miscellaneous melons, alfalfa, cotton and various desert plant bloom. Demand for honey was good.

ARKANSAS: The month of August showed 20" over normal on rain fall. The spring was much wetter and cooler than normal. Bees are reported to be having a hard time dehydrating the nectar into honey. The entire state is greener than any August many can remember from past years. This summer has definitely been a "mild summer". Currently bees are bringing in large amounts of pollen and the honey flow continues. The condition of my bees seems to be good. Beekeepers who have fogged with mineral oil report few presences of mites.

CALIFORNIA: Hot and dry weather continued across the State through the middle of the week. A cooler weather pattern prevailed during the second half of the week. Precipitation was limited to the extreme North and Northeast parts of the State, with most rain totals under a quarter of an inch. Temperatures averaged 1-3 degrees above normal near the Central Coast and were mostly 1-3 degrees below normal in inland areas. Extreme maximum temperatures for the week ranged from 105-110 in the deserts, mid-90s in the Central Valley, and mostly upper 70s to mid-80s near the Central Coast, except for lower 70s in the Northwest Coast. Extreme minimum temperatures for the week ranged from mostly mid-40s to mid-50s in the Central Valley, mid-60s to mid-70s in the deserts and upper 20s to 30s in the extreme North and mountains.

The lack of rain has ravaged native plants and forced farmers to scale back crop production, leaving fewer places for honeybees to forage. The historic drought, now in its fourth year, is reducing supplies of California honey, raising prices for consumers and making it harder for beekeepers to earn a living. The bees appear to be doing their natural gathering of pollen and there is some still available as the bees are currently not taking any synthetic pollen. Beekeepers have been feeding sugar syrup for the last month and will continue to do so. The bees appear to be healthy at current time and progressing normally into the winter season. There is little or no honey being produced. Honey and cutter bees were moved out of seed alfalfa fields. Bee hives were placed around squash plantings, near melon fields, and in local bee yards. Bees were working alfalfa, sunflower, melon and squash fields. Where available, bees were feeding on pumpkins, sunflowers, roses, wild mustard, poppies, wild radish, marigolds, agastache, borage, pennyroyal, dandelions, thyme and peppers. Beekeepers continue to ready the hives for winter.

FLORIDA: The weather was hot and rainy with some beekeepers reporting hive losses due to excessive heat. Bee health was considered average with some beekeepers reporting problems controlling varroa mites. The few sources of food included scattered wildflowers and Spanish Needle. Many days were too hot for much bee flight and supplemental feeding was necessary in many areas. The excessive heat and a chance for better mite control has led to many hives remaining outside the state and being treated for mites before they return. Normally by the end of August approximately 70% of the hives working outside of Florida have returned home. It appears that this year the percentage may be only 10-20% as more beekeepers elect to treat for mites before returning to Florida as many are seeing better mite control by treating with no brood in the hive while they are still in the Northern states. Honey production was virtually zero with continued very good demand for any remaining supplies.

GEORGIA: Much of the area had a dry hot summer throughout the state with some sporadic rainstorms creating problems with some downed trees and beekeepers are cleaning up the debris. The goldenrod bloom was not as plentiful as had been expected earlier, while the Kudzu is still blooming. The honey crop appears to be lighter than normal in most areas, and some losses are still being reported. The bees are reported to be in good shape heading into the fall flow. There is some robbing taking place in the hives and the beekeepers are trying to keep it under control. Honey prices remain steady and demand exceeds supplies.

IDAHO, COLORADO, UTAH: Temperatures were above normal over most of Idaho, Utah and Colorado during the month of August, according to the National Weather Service. Forest fires with excess smoke did suppress temperatures in some locations of Idaho. During the same period, precipitation was below normal over most areas of the three States. The exception was around Salt Lake City, Southeastern Colorado and the Central Valley of Idaho which had slightly above normal precipitation during August.

According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, Colorado continues to have normal moisture conditions across most of the State. The exception was the very Northwest part of Colorado which was abnormally dry in late August. The very Southeast part of Utah continues to report normal moisture conditions. The rest of Utah and all of Idaho have drought conditions that range from abnormally dry to extreme drought. The worst drought condition continues to be in Western and the Northern Panhandle areas of Idaho and West and Central Utah as of late August. The areas of extreme drought has grown and intensified in Idaho during August. This extreme condition has led to several forest fires.

With the summertime quickly coming to an end, sources of nectar and pollen were nearing their end as well. Lower elevations across Idaho, Utah and Colorado still have small amounts of available nectar from alfalfa, white sweet clover, sunflowers and rabbit brush. One of the biggest obstacles specifically in Idaho has been the excessive amount of smoke in the atmosphere from the many forest fires raging in Idaho as well as other Western States. The excessive smoke has tended to cause trouble with bee fly time and suppressed temperatures. Much like the calming effect of smoke utilized by beekeepers to work hives, the forest smoke has had a major impact on reduced honey production during the smoky period in August.

Commercial beekeepers are in the middle of extracting from their hives. As soon as the honey is extracted beekeepers are following up immediately with mite treatments. At the current time, most mite loads seem to be at the tolerable level. The overall size of the crop in Idaho and Utah looks to be average in size. Out of the three State areas, the most promising honey crop at this point appears to be in Colorado. In Colorado, beekeepers have struggled with drought conditions for several years. The honey crop, according to beekeepers, will be the best this year that they have seen for many years. According to one beekeeper, he deemed the Colorado honey crop this year as, "A real turnaround!" Now that the drought is largely over in Colorado, the impact of better foraging nectar crops has had a profound positive impact on overall produced supplies of honey during the summer of 2015.

Queen losses have been near normal in the past month. As the foraging season nears an end, queens are slowing down egg laying. Brood patterns are in a normal diminishing seasonal cycle. Overall bee health is looking fairly good at this time. Wholesale demand for honey is very good and continues to exceed the current supply levels, but at lower prices than last year. New crop honey prices are being impacted by a glut of imported honey at lower prices

than seen in the last two years. According to commercial beekeepers, the current wholesale price for good white domestic honey in Idaho, Colorado and Utah currently averages from \$1.75 to \$1.85 per pound.

ILLINOIS: Temperatures for the month of August were normal with a lack of rainfall in most parts of the state. Beekeepers continue extracting honey from their hives and check for mites. Most beekeepers report that they have seen mites, but at this part of the season they haven't become a problem. Beetles, on the other hand, have been a problem. Most beekeepers report that their bees are in good to excellent condition as they swarm and produce other hives as well as continuous cleansing flights. Beekeepers also report lots of foliage for their bees to feed on, such as goldenrod and aster, as they bring nectar back to the hives. Beekeepers are not as optimistic as they were early, suggesting that there will be no surplus and little fall crop. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

IOWA, KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA: Temperature and precipitation ranges were variable. Early state average conditions were cool and temperatures were below normal. During the later part of the month hot, dry and drought like conditions returned. Many high and low record temperatures were broken. Some areas saw heavy amounts of rainfall as others were dry and below normal.

Beekeepers were busy harvesting and extracting honey, as the main honey flow has come to an end. Some beekeepers experienced low production of honey comb. An increase in mite count was observed by some beekeepers. Beekeepers are reporting that fifty-five gallon barrels are being priced around \$2.30, as prices continue to climb and remain strong. Beekeepers were also busy in preparing for over wintering.

INDIANA: Temperatures for the month of August were normal for the state with a lack of rain in most parts of the state. Beekeepers report that their bees continue to feed on foliage, such as alfalfa. Beekeepers report their bees in good condition as they swarm for cleansing flights as well as starting other hives. Beekeepers report no problems with insects. A few beekeepers said they started poorly, but that production has increase appreciably. Demand for honey is good and that sales are up at the retail level and fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

KENTUCKY: Kentucky had hive deaths associated with wax moth, small hive beetle, late August swarms, and bees not having enough nectar. There was also a European foulbrood case in Central Kent. However there were no American foulbrood cases during the month of August. Beekeepers remain optimistic as the Goldenrod is starting a nectar flow.

LOUISIANA: Pollen and nectar sources during August were from various trees, crops and wild flowers seem to be in abundance. The colonies were in generally good condition. Honey is in high demand while supply continues to below.

MICHIGAN: Across mid-Michigan, honey flows have been less than desired for the month. In many cases, there was just enough nectar for the brood to use early in the month. The latter half of the month saw little nectar being collected. In spite of the frequent showers, bees have been able to collect some pollen to feed the hive. Goldenrod and some asters are beginning to bloom which will produce a fall honey flow through mid-September. Overall, with rain and cooler temperatures, the summer has provided only average honey production. Honey prices have held steady at \$2.25 per pound for premium basswood and star thistle honey. Colony losses appear to be above average which is 30% per year. Some areas have reported as high as 50%, due to average weather conditions, a poor honey producing year and toxic residues from pollination. Soil moisture and plant condition seems to be excellent as fall rapidly approaches.

MINNESOTA: Temperatures were below normal over most areas of the State during the month of August, according to the National Weather Service. Precipitation was above normal in most areas of the State during the month. The exception was below normal monthly precipitation recorded around the Twin Cities area during the same period. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor, the Northeast area of the State had abnormally dry conditions in August. The rest of the State of Minnesota continues to report normal moisture conditions.

With the nights cooling down across Minnesota, very little pollen or nectar remains from foraging plants. Good foraging plants just do not produce any viable nectar when temperatures start dropping off. There is still very limited nectar from buckwheat. With the recent turn towards drier weather in late August, foraging crops have started to shut down for the season.

Earlier this summer commercial beekeepers had anticipated that based on favorable weather conditions and other factors, that 2015 could be the best honey production season that they have seen for the past few years. As the season progressed, it became evident that the high expectations were a little overconfident. This year still looks good from the honey production standpoint, and better than last year, but just not as good as earlier estimates. One of the biggest factors that have put a dapper on higher honey production has been issues with queen bees. Since commercial beekeepers cannot watch over the hives constantly, the lack of monitoring fails to detect early problems with queens. Queen issues seem to always result in lower honey production. It seems as though some hives end up making management decisions on their own account. If the hive decides to swarm, the old queen moves on and takes her dedicated followers with her. They leave the rest of the hive to survive on their own. Usually another queen has been chosen to carry on the hive. However, before a swarm takes place, the group of bees leaving consume a glut of honey in preparation for their departure. The remaining hive is set back, because they just loss a lot of their productive residents. Consequently, the remaining hive falls way short on honey production for the season. This situation, according to commercial beekeepers happened too much this season for there to be a bumper crop of honey in Minnesota.

Commercial beekeepers are in the middle of extracting honey from their hives and should have most of the crop extracted by the middle to late September. As soon as the honey is extracted beekeepers are following up immediately with mite treatments. At the current time, most mite loads seem to be at the tolerable level. Queen losses have been near normal in the past month. As the season progresses, queens are slowing down so brood patterns are in a normal diminishing seasonal cycle. Overall bee health is looking fairly good at this time.

Wholesale demand for honey is very good and continues to exceed the current supply levels in Minnesota. According to commercial beekeepers, the current wholesale price for good white domestic honey in Minnesota is still attempting to find a pricing level. It is anticipated that after more information becomes available about the size of the 2015 domestic crop, beekeepers will be able to negotiate more favorable prices. Right now it appears that it will average around \$2.00 or below per pound for good white honey. New crop honey prices are being impacted by a glut of imported honey. Overall, prices appear headed lower than seen in the last two years.

MISSISSIPPI: It was a dry summer in the central areas of the state and a short crop was reported this year. The bees are reported to be in good condition and no supplemental feeding is required at this time. The beekeepers are hoping that the fall goldenrod blooms will be plentiful and they can get a fall flow produced before the cool months arrive.

MONTANA: No report issued.

NEW ENGLAND: New England weather in August, for the most part has followed the exact path set in July, with average temperatures generally normal combined with high humidity early on and throughout the month. Precipitation and soil moisture levels was average and holding steady with light pollen sources and many nectar sources starting to slow and end quickly. New England has experienced hot daytime temperatures in the high 80s and mid 90s and some very strong winds. There seems to be a pattern where bees are bringing in little nectar and pollen early in the day and robbing is a problem later in the day with many bees feeding. Keepers report that many bees are hanging outside the hives in order to escape the heat while others line up with their backs toward the entrance and fan their wings to create a cooling air flow through the hive. Many hives have bees clustered on the front of the hive with many hives bearding. This indicates that the bees are not out foraging and are opportunistic to any easy nectar source because of their tendency to swarm to the nearest nectar source.

Regionally we are in a nectar dearth, so keepers reportedly are watching for syrup feedings if necessary. The bees are finding it hard to find nectar with so much humidity. Additionally, many bees are by the water sources as well, which is customary for this time of season and weather pattern. Bees are putting what they are bringing inside the hive into brood production. Bees were working black locust, swamp thistle, button bush, purple loosestrife, wild radish, American basswood/linden (*Tilia Americana*), milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*), winged sumac, staghorn sumac (*Rhus typhina*), smooth sumac (*Rhus glabra*), buckwheat, sweet pepper bush (*Chethora*), meadow sweet (produces a light olive pollen color) as well as vegetable crops and a variety of flowering trees and wild flowers. Some excellent pollen and nectar sources for bees are the legumes such as alsike clover (*Trifolium hybridum*), purple vetch (*Vicia sativa*), birds foot trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*), and clovers such as white sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*) and yellow sweet clover (*Melilotus officinalis*) are all in full bloom at this point in time.

The honey flow will dramatically slow as nectar becomes scarce, brood rearing slows down but there's still a large population of bees. Keepers advise to extract honey as soon as possible and leave enough honey for the bees during August and September when nectar is scarce. August has been busy for most beekeepers as they start making decisions about winter. It is still too early to assess the overall crop for the season as golden rod; knotweed and loosestrife are still blooming. At this point in time, reportedly most honey producers are calling it a great season for honey yields. Varroa mites have been at about normal levels and beekeepers are getting organized to treat in order to lower the mite populations. This is often at the loss of any late honey as you do not treat colonies when collecting honey. Utilizing screened bottom boards helps to keep the mite population down. Tracheal and varroa mites are typically a problem in August and September. Additionally, being reported is damage caused by small hive beetles and especially wax moth. Many keepers are experimenting with brood interruption for mite control. Secondly, keepers are re-queening with local raised queens and this procedure seems to shut down brood production when nectar flows shut down. Currently there are just less and less forage sources available for bees to get a good healthy diet. Consequently keepers are sugar syrup feeding and also feeding pollen with mega food patties as a substitute for natural pollen. Early commercial crop pollination services fees ranged from \$80.00 to \$150.00 per hive colony depending on transportation cost requirements.

Early harvested honey reportedly was some of the highest quality and lightly colored ever. At that point in time, harvested honey was averaging 50 lbs. per colony. Beekeepers have been busy concentrating on extracting honey. The Italian and Russian honeybees have reportedly been the best honey producers with keepers that have been successful with respectable honey production numbers. Prices and demand for local and regional honey has been excellent.

Demand at all retail/wholesale outlets remains good and honey sales remain firm. Prices quoted for retail 1 lb. bottled units were \$9.00 to \$12.00 mostly \$12.00, occasionally higher, and 1 Quart bottled units were \$18.00 to \$20.00 mostly \$20.00, occasionally higher, inclusive of all varieties; for food service operations, prices were firm with 5 gallon units at \$195.00 to \$240.00 mostly \$230.00 and occasionally lower for all raw and natural honey depending on variety and quality.

In the Northeast overall, the wholesale natural and raw honey price has been around \$2.50 to \$2.80 per pound, mostly \$2.80 per pound, occasionally higher, by the 55 gallon barrel. Propolis reportedly is \$14.00 to \$17.00 mostly \$16.00 for 2 ounces tincture and pollen is \$26.00 to \$30.00 mostly \$28.00 per quart.

NEW YORK: – Honey production has been reported to be just “average” with hives producing 40-50 pounds. On top of that, large beekeepers have been hearing sharp price cuts (\$1.50 per pound wholesale) across the region. Smaller producers have reported as high as \$2.25 per pound for premium honey in 60 pound pails. After a disappointing spring flow, beekeepers are optimistic there will be a good goldenrod flow in the next few weeks. Some areas have lots of moisture while nearby farms remain on the dry side. Recent heat trends in the East have limited some flows.

NORTH CAROLINA: Temperatures in North Carolina were mostly above normal throughout August. The state received mostly normal precipitation with statewide soil moisture levels rated 16.5 percent very short, 36.5 percent short, 43.5 percent adequate, and 3.5 percent surplus the week ending August 22. The North Carolina Drought Management Advisory Council reported 52 counties as being abnormally dry, 30 counties as experiencing moderate drought conditions, and 3 counties as being under severe drought conditions.

Colonies remain in moderate condition as weather has been a rather negative factor this summer. Pest levels varied by region and management practices; and should continue to be monitored as Varroa mites and small hive beetles tend to reach threshold populations this time of year. August can typically be an off time for foraging, but this year especially the sourwood flow was fairly light and production is expected to be slightly below normal. Other nectar sources typically available were Aster in the Mountain region; Heartsease, Smartweed in the Piedmont; Goldenrod throughout the Piedmont and Coastal Plains regions; while also available in the Coastal Plains was Pepperbush.

Consumer demand for honey remains high. Retail prices at the Raleigh State Farmers' Market were: \$8.00 per 8 ounce jar, \$13.00 per 16 ounce jar, \$22.00 per 32 ounce jar, and \$18.00 per 44 ounce jar.

Commercial pollinator hives were moved from pumpkin fields to fall cucumbers; or placed in cotton fields to recover and help build up hives for the winter.

NORTH & SOUTH DAKOTA: The cooler weather and the smoke that drifted down from the fires in Canada disrupted the forage crops and the bees. With a lack of forage and wildflowers, the honey flow stopped earlier than normal. Overall honey production will likely be down from normal, how much depends on location and the operation. Some expect to harvest only 60-70% of their usual crop.

OHIO: Hot and dry weather has slowed honey production during the month. Goldenrod is beginning at the end of the month. Some rain would help the honey crop, as it has been a bittersweet harvest thus far: too much rain early, too little late with warm temperatures. Most beekeepers are treating and protein feeding bees. Even if goldenrod is a big hit, there are too little protein stores to sustain the colonies. Honey prices have dropped, in some cases sharply (\$1.50 per pound wholesale), as there appears to be a big influx of foreign honey into the US. The high dollar and other international financial issues have importers looking for even cheaper off-shore honey and finding it everywhere. A big drop in honey prices will not be sustainable for beekeepers to prepare colonies for next spring's pollination ventures, which will have a huge impact on production.

OKLAHOMA: A good crop of honey has been reported due to wildflower and alfalfa not being cut during the rainy times. Bees are reported as being strong with little hive beetle activity compared to last year. Good supply from several hives with good demand. Demand is exceptional high. Price: \$20 quart \$10.00 pint.

OREGON: No report issued.

SOUTH CAROLINA: No report issued.

TENNESSEE: August was a hot dry month for most of Tennessee. There were not many sources of nectar or pollen until the end of the month when Goldenrod and Asters started to bloom. Beekeepers report that at this point it looks like they are going to have a decent fall nectar flow. Tennessee has had no significant colony losses during August.

TEXAS: Southeast Texas bees are doing well. Some colonies in nucleus hives (leftovers from spring re-queening), grew so well that they threw off a swarm in late July. The swarming a clear indication that more room was needed. Plans are being made to treat for mites soon, to get the bees as healthy as possible before they shut down brood production heading into winter.

Honey sales perked in August. Some report stock is low because the harvest was poor, so it is just a question of when (not whether) honey runs out for those individuals. Many continue to hope for a good nectar flow in September/October that might allow for harvesting more. However, but the present hot and dry conditions have not allowed the bees to build up any additional surplus.

During the honey flow the weather was wet in Northeast Texas. The numerous rains restricted the foraging and supplies of pollen and nectar. Then the drought hit. Local conditions varied with beekeepers reporting good harvest and others with reduced honey production. A strong demand for local honey is keeping prices stable. Hives have been lost this season to beetles and wax moths invasion. Some hives reported so weak that the bees produced 33% of last year's production at this time last year. As before, the local market seems to be sustainable as is. All the usual food sources were the same as usual with reduced gathering due to rain. Many are supplemental feeding; mostly to supply moisture in a drought period. State supply and demand is up.

WASHINGTON: The unusual weather patterns this winter, spring, and summer have pushed forage crops. Many wildflowers were early and the season short lived due to higher temperatures and lack of moisture. Smoke from fires throughout Washington and Canada also added to the disruption. The bees have been reacting and generally less honey is being built up. Some cooler weather later in August has helped but is likely a case of too little and too late. In some areas bees are requiring extra feeding, water and care just to get through this season.

WISCONSIN: Temperatures for the month of August were surprisingly cool for the state of Wisconsin, according to a few of the beekeepers for the state, but report very satisfactory health of their hives. Beekeepers also report a good honey flow, but say that harvesting is tapering off. Beekeepers report more than enough wild foliage for their bees and noticed that this particular year and season their bees are feeding on goldenrod and other miscellaneous flowers. Demand for honey is good at the retail level and fairly good at the wholesale level. Prices are generally unchanged.

U.S Exports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

	Year to Date		July 2015	
	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars
COMB & NATURAL HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -				
Afghanistan	1,322	12,310	0	0
Bahamas, The	824	7,419	0	0
Bahrain	24,566	59,629	0	0
Bangladesh	1,000	4,435	0	0
Barbados	13,798	56,427	1,794	10,682
Brazil	4,407	10,696	0	0
Cayman Islands	548	3,180	0	0
China	168,314	412,728	43,718	106,117
Guatemala	897	5,341	0	0

Guyana	6,966	24,029	0	0
Hong Kong	2,898	11,500	0	0
India	260,400	910,470	0	0
Japan	280,959	943,988	1,567	3,804
Korea, South	148,680	794,270	0	0
Kuwait	189,496	464,260	64,666	158,652
Malaysia	4,692	11,390	0	0
Netherlands Antilles(*)	10,593	69,442	898	5,341
Panama	17,605	89,684	2,694	16,023
Philippines	157,221	384,951	104,323	253,224
Saudi Arabia	449	3,384	0	0
Singapore	33,101	102,805	1,184	12,616
Sri Lanka	1,482	3,598	0	0
Taiwan	8,296	20,136	8,296	20,136
United Arab Emirates	191,859	486,862	86,886	212,554
Yemen(*)	49,808	137,084	0	0

**NATURAL HONEY, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED
OR SPECIFIED - - -**

Bahamas, The	21,948	98,820	2,041	13,664
Barbados	4,701	30,312	831	5,460
Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	2,014	4,889	0	0
Bermuda	31,141	87,655	2,578	9,611
Canada	728,584	3,279,380	70,290	370,894
Cayman Islands	1,262	5,291	613	2,736
Chile	809	12,853	0	0
China	41,300	153,202	2,966	14,742
Dominican Republic	3,331	11,200	0	0
Germany(*)	4,155	13,945	0	0
Guatemala	760	8,814	308	3,620
Hong Kong	39,321	236,370	16,310	85,869
India	219,540	595,082	0	0
Italy(*)	8,262	22,920	0	0
Japan	11,235	66,412	200	5,625
Jordan	646	5,000	646	5,000
Korea, South	98,663	408,320	1,298	3,150
Kuwait	2,779	6,746	2,779	6,746
Mongolia	2,366	5,742	2,366	5,742
Netherlands Antilles(*)	9,553	41,163	0	0
Pakistan	10,761	74,923	0	0
Panama	408	3,056	0	0
Philippines	2,850	20,942	0	0
Saudi Arabia	51,810	138,886	430	8,780
Singapore	13,235	67,818	800	6,472
Thailand	3,538	24,235	0	0
United Arab Emirates	9,513	41,479	1,189	6,702
United Kingdom	147	2,590	0	0
Vietnam	171,001	461,026	0	0

GRAND TOTAL	3,075,814	10,959,089	421,671	1,353,962
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U.S Imports of Honey By Country, Quantity, and Value

Year to Date			July 2015		
Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars	Quantity Kilograms	Value Dollars	CIF Value Dollars

WHITE HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	3,800,329	14,948,527	15,204,296	531,904	2,053,211	2,086,840
Australia(*)	19,490	79,909	80,909	0	0	0
Brazil	522,448	2,117,661	2,186,923	114,305	367,793	392,993
Canada	5,197,177	22,447,913	22,558,386	253,015	1,123,659	1,128,694
China	802	5,135	5,435	0	0	0
Dominican Republic	6,282	17,612	18,781	0	0	0
France(*)	675	6,272	6,447	0	0	0
Germany(*)	614	2,095	2,162	0	0	0
India	2,539,675	8,835,076	9,022,648	584,230	2,008,665	2,047,735
Italy(*)	4,519	37,407	45,857	825	9,210	12,010
Mexico	1,632,364	6,739,163	6,789,606	145,743	555,669	562,645
New Zealand(*)	6,073	12,145	12,833	0	0	0
Serbia	1,416	9,183	9,755	0	0	0
Taiwan	132,881	284,138	304,119	0	0	0
Thailand	354,264	945,509	987,009	0	0	0
Ukraine	37,120	115,617	120,875	18,966	47,580	52,338
United Kingdom	3,528	32,265	33,648	1,411	14,738	14,739
Uruguay	490,874	1,815,302	1,832,077	38,160	134,355	135,176

EXTRA LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - -

Argentina	11,746,298	46,237,976	47,878,876	1,499,449	5,564,057	5,761,370
Australia(*)	19,500	88,725	89,288	0	0	0
Brazil	449,370	1,694,213	1,762,561	56,925	177,262	192,262
Burma	19,500	59,425	62,689	0	0	0
Canada	221,687	1,059,791	1,065,374	39,001	169,268	170,118
Denmark(*)	1,682	12,294	12,933	0	0	0
France(*)	8,924	41,971	43,315	0	0	0
India	9,922,922	32,454,425	33,586,802	2,418,906	7,935,773	8,210,249
Italy(*)	11,043	30,637	32,364	85	3,088	3,212
Japan	10	2,790	2,970	0	0	0
Mexico	2,490,638	9,686,873	9,802,536	641,692	2,349,128	2,384,254
New Zealand(*)	54,756	177,403	195,847	9,352	68,192	75,041
Portugal	219	2,408	2,608	0	0	0
Taiwan	1,228,980	2,939,227	3,044,227	285,360	710,494	727,794
Thailand	1,617,244	4,327,997	4,449,420	333,047	898,093	929,327
Ukraine	7,514,139	24,311,026	25,648,483	1,119,266	3,506,841	3,652,639
Uruguay	2,119,744	7,355,158	7,552,441	547,560	1,874,010	1,932,595
Vietnam	579,280	1,642,236	1,744,111	388,200	1,100,400	1,167,950

LIGHT AMBER HONEY – NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE –

Argentina	1,329,581	5,146,817	5,329,876	306,836	1,123,312	1,167,308
Australia(*)	5,747	75,274	76,204	0	0	0
Austria	69,785	600,851	640,059	7,771	55,903	61,267
Brazil	1,213,237	4,547,031	4,696,868	169,355	597,050	627,943
Bulgaria	17,716	65,652	70,180	0	0	0
Burma	923,700	2,263,674	2,405,863	92,400	233,654	248,859
Canada	1,728	9,540	9,676	1,400	7,256	7,361
Cote d'Ivoire	76,800	220,032	220,034	0	0	0
Croatia	1,296	11,114	11,344	0	0	0
Denmark(*)	9,890	97,818	102,367	4,994	59,514	62,002
Dominican Republic	384,743	1,227,924	1,281,656	9,486	27,950	29,150

Ethiopia(*)	20,880	88,740	91,275	0	0	0
Germany(*)	118,653	577,577	608,101	37,800	174,179	185,679
Greece	4,731	27,823	29,446	0	0	0
Hong Kong	7,524	49,286	50,160	0	0	0
India	8,690,530	27,065,638	28,225,728	1,524,400	4,648,870	4,855,104
Israel(*)	1,363	8,225	8,493	0	0	0
Italy(*)	3,850	69,814	71,752	1,024	19,055	19,455
Jamaica	1,090	14,520	16,520	0	0	0
Kuwait	2,779	24,689	27,196	0	0	0
Mexico	162,382	617,793	621,729	35,116	143,299	143,305
New Zealand(*)	70	3,547	3,647	70	3,547	3,647
Pakistan	4,886	20,116	22,128	0	0	0
Spain	16,782	134,636	139,047	2,398	19,331	19,699
Switzerland(*)	492	2,595	2,596	0	0	0
Taiwan	922,599	2,118,156	2,191,776	76,560	172,260	179,760
Thailand	4,971,782	12,502,512	13,226,181	382,903	940,390	1,003,138
Turkey	3,201,060	9,147,480	9,986,482	279,000	855,600	930,600
Ukraine	609,322	1,938,230	2,015,729	0	0	0
Uruguay	2,246,794	7,312,241	7,450,422	689,992	2,235,087	2,267,829
Vietnam	17,085,996	48,011,880	50,361,255	3,090,190	8,560,537	8,932,510

NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED ---

Argentina	109,689	356,815	375,560	56,292	153,906	157,651
Australia(*)	94	2,419	2,539	0	0	0
Brazil	18,744	63,167	68,167	0	0	0
Canada	41,159	115,244	125,465	176	2,640	2,690
Dominican Republic	380,234	977,062	1,015,742	114,564	307,020	315,420
Egypt	4,474	21,900	23,366	0	0	0
France(*)	3,051	45,017	46,496	0	0	0
Greece	16,481	129,393	137,379	595	8,811	8,821
India	67,888	250,428	262,854	18,000	48,600	50,600
Indonesia	121,800	328,860	343,860	0	0	0
Israel(*)	94	2,700	2,786	0	0	0
Italy(*)	5,513	88,156	91,231	876	12,534	12,804
Lithuania	3,487	16,781	17,689	0	0	0
Mexico	283,508	1,102,444	1,109,556	0	0	0
Moldova	3,535	6,315	7,354	0	0	0
New Zealand(*)	560,620	6,778,754	6,922,423	52,269	1,667,678	1,698,973
Pakistan	1,338	6,150	6,960	0	0	0
Poland	21,363	87,198	95,558	3,113	14,605	15,967
Russia	39,057	180,002	189,596	1,394	4,763	5,362
Spain	2,153	13,451	14,328	960	2,148	2,348
Sudan(*)	2,650	11,290	14,176	2,650	11,290	14,176
Taiwan	364,395	984,925	1,043,663	38,280	106,418	113,068
Turkey	1,419	7,996	11,749	0	0	0
Ukraine	77,197	239,959	253,118	18,574	66,866	68,366
Uruguay	17,144	38,574	41,074	0	0	0
Vietnam	1,211,776	3,256,179	3,410,465	173,778	472,448	499,868

COMB AND RETAIL HONEY –

Argentina	11,295	49,746	52,445	0	0	0
Austria	3,172	39,869	42,646	246	2,666	2,883
Brazil	14,502	110,094	112,430	0	0	0
Bulgaria	71,448	257,035	272,751	0	0	0

Canada	46,602	364,954	365,856	312	2,439	2,489
Dominican Republic	5,453	24,436	25,300	0	0	0
Egypt	7,999	12,534	13,872	0	0	0
France(*)	265,537	1,114,919	1,164,103	21,212	145,929	155,268
Germany(*)	213,587	993,423	1,036,684	0	0	0
Greece	28,725	313,743	326,556	1,681	20,228	20,515
Guatemala	10,680	36,450	41,030	0	0	0
Hungary	33,264	171,488	186,874	9,226	8,921	13,421
India	471,914	1,462,600	1,524,428	76,344	217,551	228,051
Israel(*)	2,511	15,660	15,760	653	2,700	2,750
Italy(*)	10,206	143,275	146,846	3,966	49,631	50,467
Kazakhstan	697	3,483	3,831	0	0	0
Lebanon	2,850	21,060	21,954	2,850	21,060	21,954
Lithuania	8,426	36,055	39,661	3,462	14,221	15,643
Mexico	19,063	80,245	85,072	1,130	6,048	6,248
New Zealand(*)	563,706	4,359,531	4,412,501	37,844	312,216	314,716
Pakistan	2,333	7,494	7,836	2,333	7,494	7,836
Poland	16,589	69,176	73,499	0	0	0
Portugal	26,160	164,118	171,223	3,870	24,488	25,141
Russia	46,798	217,118	238,822	19,495	118,902	130,792
Saudi Arabia	1,553	13,117	13,326	0	0	0
Serbia	5,582	41,264	43,537	0	0	0
Spain	77,386	588,248	607,197	562	2,754	2,882
Switzerland(*)	13,134	84,026	88,219	391	6,421	7,120
Taiwan	62,486	133,982	141,779	9,279	22,275	23,195
Turkey	98,160	637,002	659,422	22,032	147,537	154,014
Ukraine	45,774	114,109	124,114	15,626	25,502	28,975
United Arab Emirates	908	5,400	5,607	0	0	0

FLAVORED HONEY –

Belgium-Luxembourg(*)	1,959	5,984	6,370	0	0	0
Canada	8,898	105,740	106,678	1,814	2,720	2,970
China	11,209	59,523	61,076	0	0	0
El Salvador	2,309	9,070	10,619	0	0	0
Finland	73	14,130	14,298	0	0	0
Germany(*)	10,200	34,082	36,232	10,200	34,082	36,232
India	51,255	111,686	117,040	15,200	31,918	33,763
Ireland	807	7,804	9,182	291	2,787	3,593
Italy(*)	1,749	60,274	61,347	468	13,570	13,782
Japan	180	22,877	22,977	0	0	0
Korea, South	131,720	2,299,996	2,359,466	18,166	342,587	346,576
Lebanon	240	3,600	3,744	0	0	0
Mexico	58,365	525,077	530,686	3,032	27,267	27,327
New Zealand(*)	76	12,207	12,454	0	0	0
Pakistan	1,387	3,725	3,887	1,387	3,725	3,887
Poland	880	3,179	3,396	0	0	0
Russia	2,600	4,542	4,996	0	0	0
Spain	739	5,238	6,252	0	0	0
Taiwan	23,749	60,836	64,667	2,000	7,240	7,506
Thailand	70,382	305,443	314,428	26,334	111,635	114,879
Turkey	915	4,744	4,855	0	0	0

ORGANIC HONEY –

Argentina	254,066	1,139,920	1,208,319	0	0	0
Australia(*)	9,240	75,010	77,510	0	0	0
Brazil	7,563,273	29,470,173	30,557,125	838,808	3,156,567	3,267,522
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canada	73,117	522,555	529,937	44,882	305,824	308,424

Greece	960	12,681	12,904	0	0	0
India	125,400	359,562	368,005	71,400	208,249	214,749
Italy(*)	8,963	84,940	88,222	975	11,739	12,257
Mexico	63,852	269,068	277,971	18,900	75,978	78,478
New Zealand(*)	15,889	191,669	196,746	2,130	17,698	18,112
Ukraine	278,775	904,435	956,935	148,680	493,520	521,520
Uruguay	20,146	69,121	72,621	20,146	69,121	72,621

GRAND TOTAL	109,204,991	378,132,453	391,991,681	17,677,945	59,503,217	61,649,269
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Notes:

1. Data Source: Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Statistics
2. All zeroes for a data item may show that statistics exist in the other import type. Consumption or General.
3. (*) denotes a country that is a summarization of its component countries.
4. Users should use cautious interpretation on QUANTITY reports using mixed units of measure.
QUANTITY line items will only include statistics on the units of measure that are equal to, or are able to be converted to, the assigned unit of measure of the grouped commodities.
5. The CIF Value is not included within the 13th month data loads. This means that the CIF Value will be zero (0) for any records that are inserted during this process.
6. Product Group : Harmonized